Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

October 19, 2010

The Honorable David R. Obey Chair Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives H218 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Jerry Lewis Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives 1016 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Congressman Lewis:

The extremely limited 2010 commercial salmon fishery in California will seriously exacerbate the economic crisis currently facing fishing families and communities in our districts. We seek your assistance in providing much-needed emergency disaster funding.

On September 2nd, at the request of Governor Schwarzenegger, Secretary Locke declared a continuation of the fishery resource disaster and commercial fishery failure for the California salmon fishery. The Governor has certified the California State Department of Fish and Game's assessment of \$62.2 million to respond to the needs of California's fishing communities due to this disaster.

The estimated 14,500 salmon caught by the fishery this year is only about 20% as many as were caught during the 2006 disaster. This year's closure is the result of low predicted numbers of returning Sacramento River fall-run Chinook – considered the driver of wild salmon fisheries in the contiguous United States. The declines in salmon stocks are the result of multiple impacts including federal water management practices in the Sacramento-Bay Delta, ocean conditions, pollution, non-native species, and other factors.

We respectfully request your assistance in providing emergency disaster funding for fishery-dependent communities. California's fishing families need additional assistance to survive this limited 2010 season.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress

GEORGE MILLER
Member of Congress

JACKIE SPEIER
Member of Congress

LYNN WOOLSEY Member of Congress

ANNA ESHOO
Member of Congress

PETE STARK
Member of Congress

JOHN GARAMENDI Member of Congress

SAM FARR
Member of Congress

BARBARA LEE Member of Congress

Member of Congress

LAURA RICHARDSON Member of Congress

JOE BACA Member of Congress

JERRY MCNERNEY Member of Congress **DORIS MATSUI Member of Congress**

HOWARD BERMAN
Member of Congress

Mafine Ulatere

MIKE HONDA
Member of Congress

MAXINE WATERS
Member of Congress

HENRY A. WAXMAN Member of Congress

JANE HARMAN Member of Congress